JASON AARON • MIKE DEL MUNDO

WEIRDWORLD

SECRET WARS

MARVEL 003

WEIRDWORLD
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SECRET WARS

THE MULTIVERSE WAS DESTROYED!

NOW, ALL THAT REMAINS...IS **BATTLEWORLD!**

A MASSIVE, PATCHWORK PLANET COMPOSED OF THE FRAGMENTS OF WORLDS THAT NO LONGER EXIST, MAINTAINED BY THE IRON WILL OF ITS GOD AND MASTER, VICTOR VON DOOM!

EACH REGION IS A DOMAIN UNTO ITSELF, AND WEIRDWORLD IS PERHAPS THE STRANGEST OF ALL!

ARKON HAS SPENT AGES WANDERING THE STRANGE FLOATING ISLAND IN SEARCH OF POLEMACHUS, HIS HOME, BUT HIS ONLY MAP WAS LOST IN HIS ESCAPE FROM APELANTIS.

WARBOW THE CRYSTAL WARRIOR PROMISED HIM ANOTHER MAP, BUT ONLY IF ARKON HELPED HIM RESCUE THE REMAINS OF PRINCE CRYSTAR FROM THE TREASURE VAULT OF MORGAN LE FEY. BEFORE THEY COULD ESCAPE WITH THE SHATTERED CRYSTAR, THEY WERE AMBUSHED BY MAGMA MEN!

WEIRDWORLD

THE COMING OF THE SLAYER

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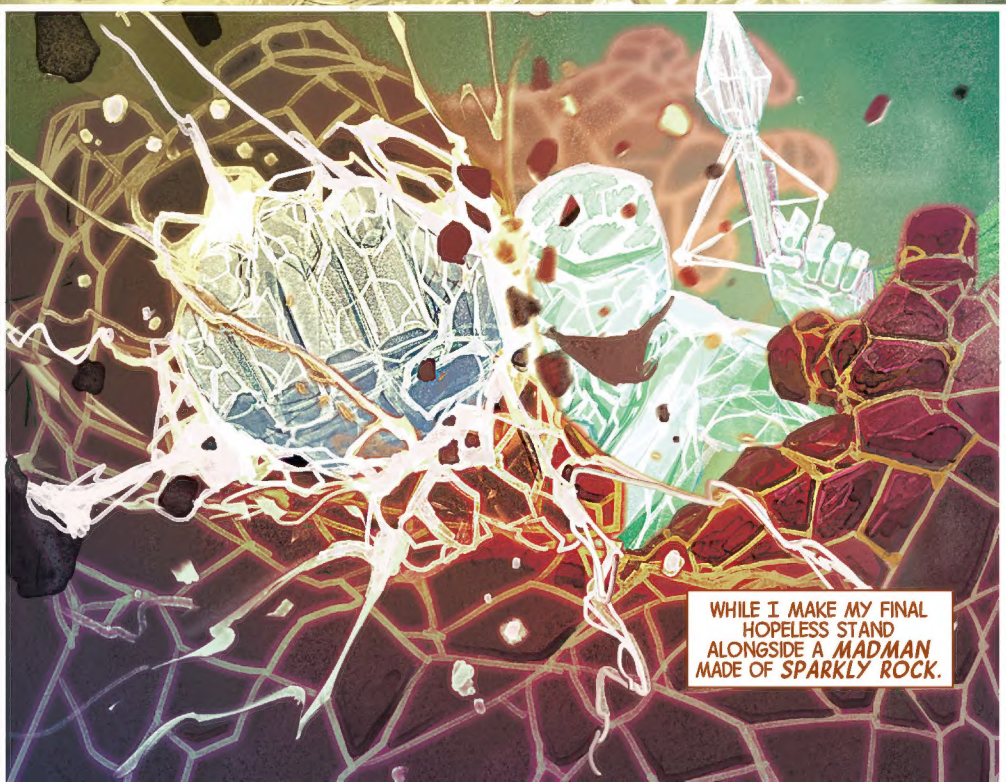
MAGMA MEN.

ARRRRGH!!
MY FLESH MELTS INTO BLOODY TALLOW AT THEIR TOUCH.


WHILE I MAKE MY FINAL HOPELESS STAND ALONGSIDE A *MADMAN* MADE OF *SPARKLY ROCK*.

THAT IS HOW I'M ABOUT TO DIE.
LIKE A *FOOL*.
THE GRANDEST FOOL IN ALL OF WEIRDWORLD.

DON'T LET THE MONSTERS LAY THEIR HANDS ON LORD CRYSTAR!
WE MUST GET THE PRINCE TO SAFETY AT ALL COSTS!
CORRECTION. THE SECOND-GRANDEST FOOL.
AS THE GLASS SHATTERS AROUND ME, I CANNOT SAY IF I WAS PUSHED OR IF I JUMPED.
ALL I KNOW FOR CERTAIN...

...IS THAT I NEVER EXPECTED TO SURVIVE.
IT'S A BOAT.
QUICKLY, ROW FOR YOUR LIFE!
HA! YOU ARE DEFEATED, SONS OF MOLTAR! PRINCE CRYSTAR IS FREE AT LAST!
ALL THANKS TO HIS DEVOTED BROTHERS, WARBOW AND ARKON!
HA HA HA!
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO MENTION MY NAME.

YOU FOOL. YOU NEARLY GOT US KILLED. AND FOR WHAT?
FOR PRINCE CRYSTAR, LORD OF CRYSTALLIUM, GREATEST OF THE CRYSTAL WARRIORS!
THAT IS A BAG OF BROKEN ROCKS! AND YOU ARE A MADMAN!
THE PRINCE HAS SEEN BETTER DAYS, IT'S TRUE. BUT HE IS STILL THE PRINCE.
WHEN MOLTAR BENT HIS KNEE TO THE WITCH QUEEN LE FAY, HE USED HER MAGIC TO CONQUER CRYSTALLIUM. THE CRYSTAL WARRIORS WERE SHATTERED. LITERALLY.
KALIBAR. STALAX. IKA. EVEN CRYSTAR. ALL WERE SMASHED INTO A THOUSAND SHARDS.
I WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO WALKED AWAY INTACT.
"INTACT." NOT SO SURE ABOUT THAT.
SINCE THEN, IT HAS BEEN MY MISSION TO GATHER THE PIECES OF MY FALLEN COMRADES. WE ARE BEINGS OF LIVING CRYSTAL. THERE IS STILL LIFE IN THESE BROKEN CHUNKS, NO MATTER HOW THEY--
YOU PROMISED ME A MAP. I WOULD HAVE IT NOW.
YES, OF COURSE. WARBOW IS A WARRIOR OF HIS WORD.
HERE IT IS, ARKON. THE MAP I MADE OF WEIRDWORLD DURING MY GREAT QUEST. MAY IT SERVE YOU WELL.

Warbow's Map
of Weird World
flying pirates
RUINS OF
crystallium
MANPHIBIANS
unknown
giant
vampire
BLAND THAT HAS
found Ika
right eye
Show Shark
VAMPIROPUNGOUS
THE Rock I WENT ON
FOREST of the MAN-THINGS
lava
Banished
Lake
BEWARE OF MOSQUITO BITES
It is MY SWEETHEART
swamp shark
You Know what
of Kalibar's Finge
Found left hand
sand shark
Feldspar
Cry spot 4
~~Rock with face1~~
Rock with face2
Where is crystal

THIS... WHAT IS THIS MADNESS?
IT IS WEIRDWORLD.
I'VE WALKED THIS LAND FOR YEARS...AND I RECOGNIZE NONE OF THIS.
IT IS CALLED WEIRDWORLD FOR A REASON.
THIS LAND IS ALWAYS CHANGING. SHIFTING. GROWING, EVEN. IT IS A PLACE THAT CAN NEVER BE FULLY KNOWN, NO MATTER HOW LONG ONE WALKS IT.
THIS "MAP" IS USELESS TO ME.
THAT MAP BROUGHT ME TO MY DESTINATION. MAY IT ALSO BRING YOU TO YOURS, BROTHER ARKON. IF YOU LIKE, I CAN ACCOMPANY YOU AS FAR AS--
NO.
YES, OF COURSE. A WISE DECISION. WE SHOULD SPLIT UP TO BEST AVOID THE MAGMA MEN.
MOLTAR AND HIS QUEEN WILL NOT BE PLEASED AT THE GREAT VICTORY WE HAVE WON HERE THIS DAY.
SOMEDAY THEY WILL SING SONGS OF US!
THE WORLD WILL NEVER FORGET OUR NAMES!

THEIR NAMES... ARE WARBOW AND ARKON.
WE KNOW, BECAUSE THE FOOLS SCREAMED THEM AT THE GUARDS AS THEY FLED.
ARKON. I HAVE HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE.
YES, MISTRESS. IT WOULD SEEM TO BE THE SAME BARBARIAN WHO SLEW THE GUN OGRES AND STOLE YOUR DRAGON.
MOMENTARILY, OF COURSE.
HE WAS COMING FOR MY PET AGAIN, WAS HE? THAT'S WHY HE DARED BREAK INTO MY CASTLE?
I DON'T THINK SO. MY MAGMA MEN CAUGHT THE BARBARIAN IN THE TREASURE VAULTS. IT WOULD APPEAR HE IS NOTHING MORE THAN A COMMON CRIMINAL.
HE AND HIS COMPATRIOT MADE OFF WITH A SINGLE BAG OF CRYSTALS. THEIR VALUE WAS MINIMAL.
THE ONE CALLED WARBOW IS KNOWN TO ME. HE IS A RELIC OF A BYGONE ERA. NOTHING MORE.
PERHAPS. BUT THIS ARKON HAS OFFICIALLY BECOME A NUISANCE. DEAL WITH HIM.
DO YOU MEAN...
YES, I BELIEVE IT IS TIME...

"...TO SUMMON THE SLAYER."
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WHAT I ALWAYS DO AFTER I'VE JUST SLAIN AN ARMY OF SAVAGE ELVES.
"MY NAME IS... JIM SCULLY."

...AND I AM NOT A MURDERER.
I WAS A SOLDIER. BUT I NEVER DID WHAT THEY--

UGGH!
TELL IT TO THE THORS, SCULLY. YOU'LL BE IN THEIR CUSTODY SOON ENOUGH.

LET'S HOPE SO. THIS STORM JUST CAME OUT OF NOWHERE.
THE INSTRUMENTS ARE GOING HAYWIRE. I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING IN THIS...

DOOM SAVE US...
AN ISLAND IN THE SKY... HOW IN THE...
EVERYBODY, BUCKLE IN!! WE'RE ABOUT TO...!

WELL?
WHAT IS IT THAT SKULL THE SLAYER DOES AFTER HE'S JUST SLAIN AN ARMY OF SAVAGE ELVES?
I WAIT FOR MY MISTRESS TO TELL ME...
...WHO I GET TO KILL NEXT.
THEN YOU'RE IN LUCK.

SOMEONE HAS BEEN *FOLLOWING* ME FOR DAYS.
A LONE FIGURE. I'VE ONLY GOTTEN GLIMPSES OF HIM FROM AFAR.
PERHAPS I SHOULD STOP AND ASK HIM FOR DIRECTIONS.
THIS DAMN MAP IS USELESS.
THE WIND SMELLS OF ALE AND VOMIT.
NO GOOD CAN COME OF SETTING FOOT IN SUCH A PLACE.
I TRULY AM LOST.
MORE THAN *EVER*, IT WOULD SEEM.

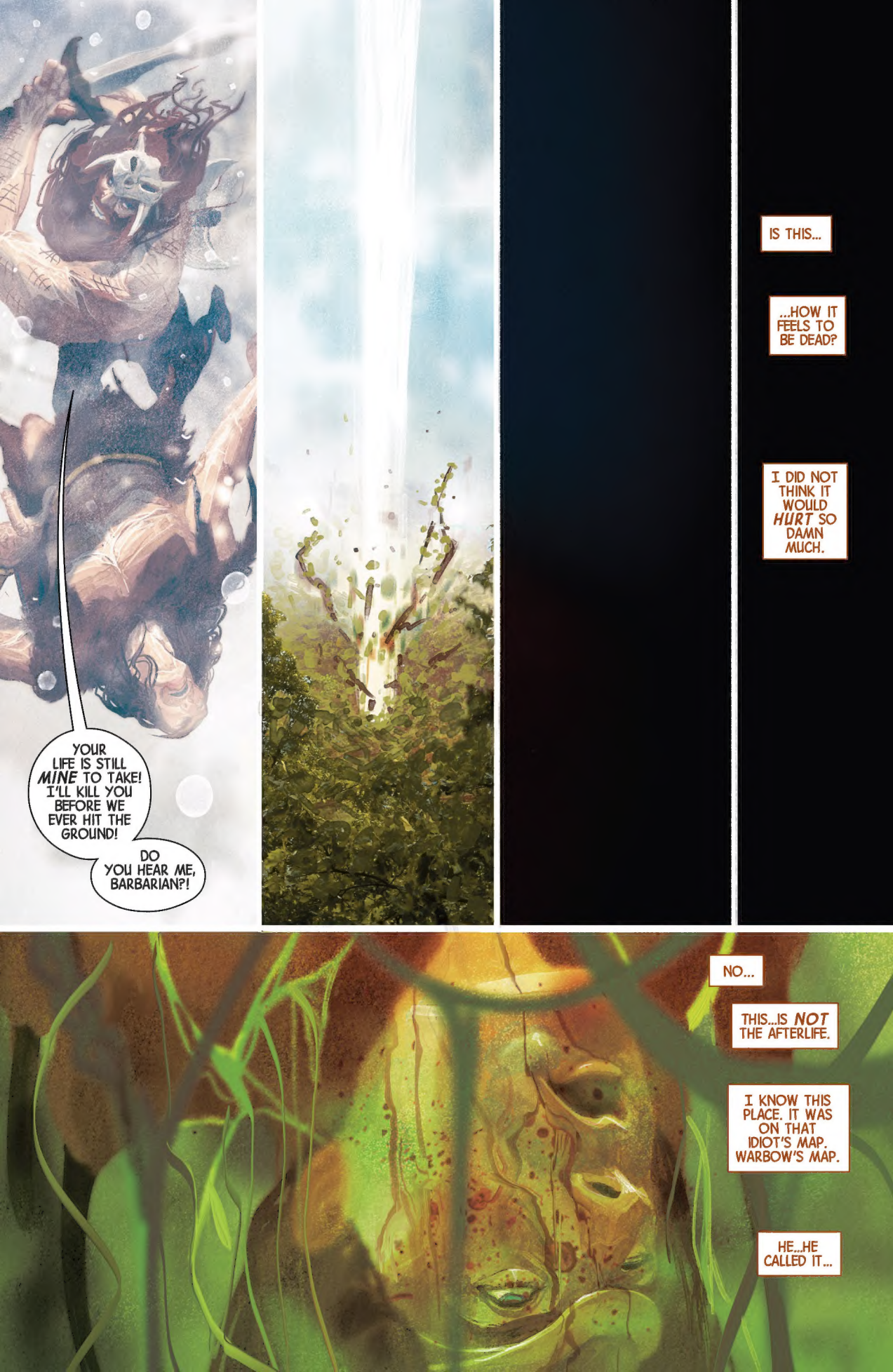
YOU LOOK LOST.
IN MY EXPERIENCE, THE ONLY PEOPLE IN THIS CURSED LAND WHO *AREN'T* LOST...ARE THE ONES WHO'VE GONE *INSANE.*
TOO TRUE.
WEIRDWORLD IS THE PLACE WHERE LOST THINGS GO. BUT I FEAR SOME HERE HAVE NEVER BEEN ANYTHING *OTHER* THAN LOST.
NOT ME.
I WAS SOMETHING *ELSE* ONCE.
AS WAS I.
OR SO I LIKE TO TELL MYSELF.

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN IT'S TIME TO FORGET?
WHY WOULD YOU WANT TO FORGET WHO YOU ARE?
BECAUSE IN THIS PLACE, YOU'LL GO MAD CHASING AFTER THE PAST.
I'VE SEEN IT.
AND I'VE SEEN WHAT MEN LOOK LIKE WHEN THEY'VE FORGOTTEN WHO THEY USED TO BE.
THEY LOOK A LOT LIKE MONSTERS.
DON'T FOOL YOURSELF.
IN THIS PLACE, IF WE WEREN'T ALREADY MONSTERS...WE'D BE DEAD.
MONSTERS DON'T HAVE TO DRINK TO FORGET.
THEN HERE'S TO MONSTERS.
THAT IS NOT A TOAST I CAN JOIN YOU IN, FRIEND.
THEN WHY THE HELL DO YOU BOTHER TO DRINK IF NOT TO FORGET?

NO AMOUNT OF ALE COULD MAKE ME FORGET THE THINGS I'VE DONE.
I DRINK BECAUSE OF WHAT I MUST DO NEXT.
AND WHAT IS THAT?
KILL SOMEONE.
WHO?
YOU.

HRRRGH!
RRRRH!
WHO SENT YOU, ASSASSIN?!
NO ONE YOU'LL LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO MEET.
RRRRRGGHH!!!

GAAAGGH!!
UGGH!
I'M DOING YOU A *FAVOR*, ARKON.
YOU'VE SEEN WHAT THIS WORLD DOES TO LOST SOULS. YOU SAID SO YOURSELF.
TRUST ME... IT'S BETTER TO BE *DEAD* THAN LOST FOREVER.
THEN MAYBE I SHOULD PUT US *BOTH* OUT OF OUR MISERY!
SLICE
YOU FOOL!!


YOUR LIFE IS STILL *MINE* TO TAKE! I'LL KILL YOU BEFORE WE EVER HIT THE GROUND!
DO YOU HEAR ME, BARBARIAN?!
IS THIS...
...HOW IT FEELS TO BE DEAD?
I DID NOT THINK IT WOULD *HURT* SO DAMN MUCH.
NO...
THIS...IS *NOT* THE AFTERLIFE.
I KNOW THIS PLACE. IT WAS ON THAT IDIOT'S MAP. WARBOW'S MAP.
HE...HE CALLED IT...

...THE FOREST OF THE MAN-THINGS.
WHAT IN THE NAME OF DOOM DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?
TO BE CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE:

QUEEN OF THE MAN-THINGS!